The Direct Instruments of Western Control over the Arabs: The Shining Example of the House of Saud

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I. Introduction:

The illegal and brutal American invasion and occupation of Iraq have been accomplished with the total and complete cooperation of Saudi Arabia. As with the devastating US war on Iraq in 1991, Saudi Arabia this time provided the US with all kinds of financial, logistical and material support including free supply of oil. There is nothing new or surprising in this because Saudi Arabia's ruling House of Saud has always done its utmost since its birth to help its imperialist masters in Britain and the US dominate and control Arabs and Muslims.

In order to understand why the dictatorial House of Saud plays such a subservient role to the imperialist West, it is imperative to investigate its roots and its rise to power. How did the House of Saud become the most powerful ruling class in the Arab world? Was the House of Saud ever elected to power by popular vote? Or was it installed and protected since its birth by the imperialist West? Let us examine the historical facts to see how and why the House of Saud ascended to power.

To weaken and dominate the Arabs; to create the illegitimate state of Israel over the holy land of Arab Palestine; and to control Arab oil, the Western colonial powers dismembered and colonized the Arab nation during the 19th and early 20th centuries. And to prolong Western domination over the Arabs even after their so-called "independence" from Western colonialism, the British installed and protected several feudal family-dictatorships in the oil-rich Arabian Peninsula countries to serve as direct instruments of Western control over the Arabs. The most important of these puppet-ruling client-houses is the House of Saud in Saudi Arabia, which is the most powerful Arab dynasty today. Hence, Saudi Arabia provides the best example of a Western client state in the Arab world.

Like Palestine, Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, the creation of Saudi Arabia as a separate Arab country was largely the making of British imperialism. Without Britain's political, military, and financial support, neither the House of Saud nor its rigid Islamic Wahhabism would be in existence today. Saudi Arabia was created by British money and weapons supplied directly to Abdulaziz Ibn Saud, Britain's number-one Arab lackey (or traitor) who is referred to as the "founder" of Saudi Arabia. In fact, since its birth the House of Saud has been notoriously known for its open treachery and cooperation with Western imperialism. Most Arabs and Muslims easily agree that no person, family, or group in the entire history of the Arabs and/or Islam has ever betrayed the Arabs and Islam by subserviently collaborating with and serving the interests of Western imperialist powers more than the House of Saud.

Unlike the great Arab heroes of the relatively recent past who bravely dedicated their lives to fighting Western colonialism and imperialism throughout the Arab world such as the Algerian Abdul-Kader al-Jaza'iri; the Egyptian Ahmad Urabi; the Sudanese Mohammad al-Mahdi; the Moroccan Abdul-Kareem al-Khattabi; the Syrian Yousif al-Athmah; the Palestinian Izzaddin al-Qassam; or the Libyan Omar al-Mukhtar, the Najdi Abdulaziz Ibn Saud bitterly angered and shamed all Arabs and all Muslims by spending his life-time groveling to his British colonialist masters, collaborating with them, and begging them for money, weapons, and recognition. Salah ad-Din would turn over in his grave at the mention of Abdulaziz Ibn Saud and his ruling House of Saud.

Unlike the House of Saud, the Hashemite family of Sharif/King Hussein of the Hejaz, which was clearly

used and *deceived* by Britain, collaborated with the British during World War I only on conditional basis and was never subservient to them. Also, as the direct descendants of Prophet Mohammad and the legitimate rulers of the Arabs with their base in the two holiest Islamic cities of Makkah and Madinah since the tenth century, only the Hashemites had the exclusive allegiance of Arab masses and thus had the rightful historical claim to negotiate with Britain on behalf of all Arabs.

The history of the brutal Bedouin House of Saud began in the middle of 18th century when its nomadic leaders made an alliance with another Najdi bedouin family, the fanatical religious family of Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Abdul-Wahhab. The Saudis and the Wahhabis, who are well known for their savagery and barbarity, committed political and religious atrocities against their fellow Arabs. For example, in 1801, they shocked the entire Muslim world by defacing the tomb of the martyr Hussein Bin Ali (Prophet Mohammad's grandson) in Karbala, Iraq, a particularly holy shrine to the Shiite Muslims. Also, in 1810, they ruthlessly killed many innocent people in Islam's holiest cities of Makkah and Madinah and desecrated Prophet Mohammad's Mosque.

As a result, the Ottoman authorities had no choice but to punish the Saudi/Wahhabi clan for their atrocities and blasphemous crimes. As the official ruler of the Arabian Peninsula and the guardian of Islam's religious places, the Turkish-Ottoman Caliph in Istanbul, Mahmud II, ordered that an Egyptian force be sent to the Arabian Peninsula to beat the Saudi/Wahhabi clan. Hence, in 1818 an Egyptian army led by Ibraheem Pasha (Mohammad Ali's son) completely destroyed the Saudi/Wahhabi forces and razed their tiny desert capital of Der'iyah in central Arabia (Najd) to the ground and laid it to waste. The Saudi/Wahhabi leader, Abdullah Ibn Saud, was captured along with two of his religious fanatic Wahhabi supporters. The three Wahhabis were then sent to prison in Turkey.

Abdullah and his two followers were later paraded for three days in Istanbul before they were publicly beheaded for their blasphemous wars and crimes against Makkah and Madinah. After their heads were crushed in a mortar, their death warrants were impaled by daggers, which pierced through their hearts. Their bodies were publicly displayed for three days in several public squares in the Ottoman capital before they were thrown to the hungry fish in the Sea of Marmara. The rest of the Saudi/Wahhabi clans were held in captivity in Cairo under Mohammad Ali's watchful eyes.

II. The Historical Saudi/Wahhabi Sordid Collaboration with British Imperialism:

After the execution of Abdullah Ibn Saud, the surviving remnants of the Saudi/Wahhabi clan began to look at the Ottoman Muslim Turks and the Egyptian Arabs as their real enemies, and to Britain and the West in general as their potential friends. Accordingly, when the British colonized Bahrain in 1820 and began to look for ways to expand their colonization and domination over the rest of the Arabian coast on the Arabian Gulf (aka the Persian Gulf); the House of Saud found it a great opportunity to seek British protection and help.

The first important contact between the shadowy House of Saud and Britain goes back to the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1843 Faisal Ibn Turki al-Saud (a relative of the executed Abdullah) returned to central Arabia from Cairo where Mohammad Ali had held him captive since 1838. A destitute tribal nomadic sheikh in the sleepy desert village of Riyadh near the destroyed Der'iyah, Faisal "appealed" in 1848 to the British Political Resident in the Persian city of Bushire "to support his representative in Trucial Oman". [1] Again in 1851, Faisal applied to the British Resident this time for assistance and support in collecting the annual Islamic poor-money of Zakat ("alms"), from Bahrain. Since the local Muslims never elected the House of Saud to collect alms, the Zakat was in essence a form of extortion by the bedouin destitute Saudi/Wahhabi clan who pocketed most of the money, until oil was discovered in the 1930s, and rarely distributed it to the poor.

Nevertheless, enticed by Faisal's appeals and eagerness to contact them and establish relations with them, the British finally decided to send one of their military officials to visit him in central Arabia. In 1865 Mr. Lewis Pelly, a Colonel in the British army, paid the ailing Faisal an important official friendly visit for a

few days in Riyadh. To impress his prominent British guest with his nomadic resolve and Wahhabi fanaticism, Faisal told Pelly that the major difference between political and religious wars in the Wahhabi strategy was that in the latter there would be no compromise, for "we kill everybody". [2]

In 1866, a year after Faisal's death, his son Abdullah signed a "friendship" treaty with the British. The treaty was in essence similar to the many unequal colonial treaties signed by Britain with the other Arab nomadic tribal sheikhs on the Arabian Gulf. These treaties guaranteed British money and protection for them as long as they subserviently served British interests and collaborated with British colonial authorities in the Arabian Peninsula.

However, Abdullah and his younger brother Saud spent most of the rest of the 19th century fighting each other over the question of succession. While the Saudis were fighting among themselves, the Ottoman government and its local Arab allies, the patriotic Rasheed clan of Hail under the able leader Mohammad Ibn Rasheed, asserted their power and position in central Arabia. Eventually in 1891, The Rasheeds succeeded in defeating the Saudi/Wahhabi clan and in capturing Riyadh from them. Abdullah's youngest brother, Abdulrahman, fled to the region of Kuwait with his own 15-year old son Abdulaziz Ibn Saud.

Homeless, poor, hungry, and mostly living in tents made of goats' hair, Abdulrahman and his son Abdulaziz were there for the taking, cheap and willing to accommodate any sponsor, including the Western enemies of Arabs and Islam, to take them back to Riyadh. Like Faisal Ibn Turki al-Saud before them, Abdulrahman and his son Abdulaziz saw Britain as a friendly power that could help rebuild their power. Thus, they immediately began to beg the British authorities in the Arabian Gulf for aid. On the other hand, the British saw in the exiled-in-Kuwait Abdulrahman and his son Abdulaziz a great opportunity to expand their influence and power throughout the Arabian Peninsula. In fact, the British were eager to use them for weakening the Ottoman Empire. Hence, the British needed them and they the British.

In 1900, with Britain's sanctions and those of the Kuwaiti House of al-Sabah, Abdulrahman al-Saud and his son Abdulaziz led an incursion into Najd but failed to capture Riyadh. Again in 1901, the British encouraged both Sheikh Mubarak al-Sabah of Kuwait and Abdulaziz Ibn Saud (hereafter referred to simply as Ibn Saud), whose aging father had by then delegated the Saudi leadership to him, to attack the Turkish-supported Rasheeds of Hail. But once more, Abdulaziz al-Rasheed, Mohammad's son, succeeded in repelling this latest Saudi-Kuwaiti military intrusion in his territorial domains in central Arabia.

However, Ibn Saud's dream of recapturing Riyadh at any cost led him, once again, to kneel down to British officials and emissaries in the Arabian Gulf asking for help. For example, in 1901, after being turned down by the Ottoman government to be its agent, Ibn Saud sent a letter to the British Resident in the Gulf, C. A. Kemball, begging him for a special relation with the British government. In his letter, Ibn Saud pleaded: "May the eyes of the British Government be fixed upon us and may we be considered as your proteges." [3]

Suddenly in January 1902, Ibn Saud captured Riyadh from the Turkish-supported Rasheeds. While the historical record is vague as to whether Britain was the direct or the indirect sponsor of Ibn Saud's successful raid, he possessed plenty of suspicious weapons and materials far beyond his humbled means [4] that helped him capture the small desert walled-town of Riyadh. One of Ibn Saud's first savage acts after capturing Riyadh was to terrorize its inhabitants by spiking and displaying the heads of his enemies at the gate of the town. His fanatical Wahhabi followers also burned over 1,200 peoples to death. [5]

After losing Riyadh to the British-supported Ibn Saud, Abdulaziz Ibn Rasheed of Hail wrote to the Turkish government in March 1902 that he "attributed to the British Government a design of entering into close relations with Central Arabia through the agency of [Abdulaziz] Ibn Saud and the Sheikh of Kuwait." [6] In fact within months of capturing Riyadh, Ibn Saud once again begged the British Gulf Resident to consider his new regime as "one of those having relations with the British Government". [7]

In addition, in 1903 Ibn Saud solicited British aid and weapons. This time he sent an emissary to meet

with Captain Prideaux, the British Political Agent in Bahrain, to seek his support. He also informed Prideaux of his burning desire to drive Britain's adversaries, the Muslim Turks, out of the Arabian Peninsula's eastern province of Hasa. [8] Again in 1904 Ibn Saud, who by now became not only the "Emir" (Prince) of Riyadh but also the "Imam" (religious leader) of the Wahhabis, asked for British protection and help against the Muslim Turks and their Arab supporters, the Rasheeds of Hail. [9]

Two years later, in 1906, Ibn Saud's bedouin Wahhabi army, fortified with British money and weapons, attacked the Rasheeds. Although he succeeded in ambushing and killing his adversary Abdulaziz al-Rasheed, Ibn Saud was unable to break down completely the Rasheeds' power. When an Ottoman military force arrived in central Arabia to help the Rasheeds against the atrocities of Ibn Saud, the British-supported Saudi/Wahhabi fanatical forces soundly defeated it.

Also, in 1906, Ibn Saud made three new different overtures, begging the British for more help and recognition, which Percy Cox, the High British Gulf Resident, urged his government to approve quickly. In these overtures, Ibn Saud also expressed his great desire to welcome a British Political Agent in Riyadh and to subscribe to the British Trucial System, including the provisions of British control over his foreign relations. [10] In 1908 and 1909, Ibn Saud once again made new overtures to the British beseeching them for more help and recognition. [11]

Ibn Saud's repeated begging for friendship and recognition from Britain finally paid off, earning him his dream of meeting personally with a high British official. While visiting his friend Sheikh Mubarak al-Sabah in Kuwait in February 1910, Ibn Saud met the British Political Agent in Kuwait, Captain William H. I. Shakespeare. A distantly related descendant of his more famous namesake British literary genius of the 16th century, Shakespeare threw an official major dinner banquet in Ibn Saud's honor.

Immediately the two men fell in love with each other as each bestowed praise and respect on the other. Ibn Saud warmly invited Shakespeare to visit him in Riyadh. Shakespeare cheerfully accepted the invitation. Shakespeare, who was soon to become Ibn Saud's principal British supporter and advisor, promptly filed a report to his Gulf Resident superior, Sir Percy Cox, recommending Ibn Saud as a "broadminded" and "straight" man who could be more trusted than most Arabs. [12]

Thus, fortified with British political support, money, and weapons, Ibn Saud was able in May 1913 to double the size of his small territorial domain in central Arabia by invading the Hasa region of eastern Arabia and driving the Muslim Turks out of it. The British, in effect, used him to get rid of their Turkish adversaries in eastern Arabia rather than risk a direct bloody head-to-head confrontation with them. In fact, Ibn Saud's conquest of the Hasa region, where the biggest oil bonanza in history was soon to be discovered, was a British success. A British official in the Arabian Gulf wrote: "With Ibn Saud in Hasa, our position is strengthened." [13]

Highly satisfied with Ibn Saud and his subservient "friendship" and loyalty to Britain, Captain Shakespeare paid him an important official visit in March 1914 to Riyadh where he was warmly greeted. During that visit Shakespeare curiously noted, "Quite a third of the town is taken up by the homes of the Saud family." [14] Ibn Saud reaffirmed yet again his deep faith in what he admirably described as the "Great Government" of the British Empire and begged Shakespeare for an official alliance with Britain. Shakespeare promised his friend Ibn Saud to do what he can and once again reassured him of Britain's gratitude and continued support.

Less than a year later, in January 1915, Shakespeare got Ibn Saud his one of his long-life dreams, a formal alliance with Britain. Officially at war with Turkey since November 5, 1914, the British promptly sent Captain Shakespeare to meet again with Ibn Saud in Riyadh where he signed with him an official draft treaty. Bent on using him in their World War I efforts against the Turkish-supported Al Rasheeds in central Arabia, the British officially recognized Ibn Saud as the "legitimate" ruler of Najd *under their protection*. Then during that same January, Shakespeare encouraged Ibn Saud to attack the Turkish-supported the Rasheeds of Hail. As an official British officer and a political advisor to Ibn Saud, Shakespeare also joined the Saudi/Wahhabi forces in active combat in the battle of Jarrab against the Rasheeds.

The Jarrab battle was in effect a proxy war during World War I between the British-supported Saudis/Wahhabis and the Turkish-supported Rasheeds. However, not only did the Rasheeds score a major military victory over the Saudi/Wahhabi force, but also they killed Shakespeare himself and then cut off his head. Shakespeare's solar helmet was handed over to the Muslim Turkish authorities that hung it up on one of Madinah's main gates as clear proof of Ibn Saud's treacherous collaboration with the worst enemies of the Arabs and Islam.

Ibn Saud deeply grieved and mourned Shakespeare's death for a long time. Despite the fact that Shakespeare was a well known racist who looked down upon the Arabs and refused to eat, drink, or even dress like them, Ibn Saud considered him to be one of his dearest friends and the "greatest" Western man he had ever met. In spite of the killing of his dear British friend, though, Ibn Saud was ecstatic in achieving finally his most important long-life dream of becoming an "official friend" of Britain from which he was assured of a reliable source of arms and money. In effect, Ibn Saud joined the other British-made Arab stooges, i.e., the sheikhs of Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and the other bedouin lackeys on the Arabian Gulf, in becoming a British protege and in following British orders on all-important political matters. Accordingly, in July 1915 Ibn Saud wrote to Sir Percy Cox begging him for more British money and weapons. Cox responded by supplying Ibn Saud with 300 captured Turkish rifles and 10,000 rupees in temporary help. [15]

In December 1915 Ibn Saud met Cox for the first time and the two men signed the Anglo-Saudi Friendship Treaty, an upgraded version of the January Shakespeare's draft treaty, which in effect made all of Ibn Saud's conquered territory (with British help) in central and eastern Arabia a British protectorate. After signing this Treaty, Ibn Saud warmly and strongly shook Cox's hand and with a broad smile emotionally said that he hoped God would enable him to repay the British government for this great honor.

In 1916 the British once again encouraged Ibn Saud to attack the Rasheeds. They also gave him 1,000 more Mauser guns, 200,000 rounds of ammunition, and a 20,000 British pounds in cash. [16] However, despite this tremendous support, the bedouin Ibn Saud felt envious and became upset when Britain chose and coaxed, in that year, the prominent King/Sharif Hussein of the Hejaz to lead the Arab revolt against the Muslim Turks. Even though Ibn Saud was clearly a dwarf and not in any way, shape, or form equal to the noble and more sophisticated King Hussein of the Hejaz, the British still felt that they had to pacify him with a special honor. At great Durbar of Arab nomadic chiefs held in Kuwait by Sir Percy Cox on November 20, 1916, Ibn Saud and Jabir al-Sabah of Kuwait (Britain's top two Arab lackeys) were officially honored for their valuable services, friendships, and loyalties to the British government. While Jabir became only Companion of the Indian Empire (CIE), Cox awarded Ibn Saud with a special British Knighthood, the Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire (KCIE). Instantly Ibn Saud became "Sir Abdulaziz" and British documents referred to him as such for many years thereafter. Ibn Saud, who clearly enjoyed his new British title along with its accompanied honor for years, proudly wore the British bright sash and jeweled star; was cheerfully photographed in them; looked utterly ridiculous in them; and then carefully stashed the insignia away in a safe place.

In addition to this special honor, the British frequently sent a British woman agent, stationed in Iraq, by the name of Gertrude Bell to render advice and help for Ibn Saud as well as to instruct him on how to serve better Great Britain. Bell, who wrote positive reports about Ibn Saud to her government praising him as a genuine friend of Britain, was totally infatuated with his looks and physical appearance. In one of these reports, she wrote the following:

"Ibn Saud is now barely forty ... He is a man of splendid physique, standing well over six feet ... he has the characteristics of the well-bred Arab, the strongly marked aquiline profile, full-fleshed nostrils, prominent lips and long, narrow chin, accentuated by a pointed beard. His hands are fine, with slender fingers ... His deliberate movements, his slow, sweet smile, and the contemplative glance of his heavy-lidded eyes ... add to his dignity and charm..." [17]

In fact, Bell became so close to Ibn Saud that she used to call him by his first name in all public gatherings, always addressing him: "ya Abdulaziz, ya Abdulaziz". In Arab bedouin culture, to which Ibn Saud belonged, no self-respecting, self-reliant sheikh or leader would have tolerated the use of his first

name from any man, let alone a woman, especially an unveiled non-Arab Christian one from the West.

Nevertheless, to further repay Ibn Saud for his valuable services to the British government, the British Treasury, on January 2, 1917, put him on its payroll by giving him 5,000 British pounds per month. [18] The 60,000 British pounds a year amounted to two thirds of Ibn Saud's annual income. [19] And to provide Ibn Saud with more support and to advise him on how to best serve Britain, the British government sent a large official political delegation at the end of November 1917 to Riyadh headed by Harry Saint John Philby (1885-1960). For about 36 years thereafter, Philby became the most important British confidant and permanent special advisor to Ibn Saud until his death in 1953.

Philby, who likened Ibn Saud to Prophet Mohammad and described him as the greatest of all Arab leaders, practically ran his government, participated in all of his military conquests, and told him what to do, when to do it, and how to do it. At one point Philby even bluntly reported that he was paying Ibn Saud 10,000 British pounds a month "so long as he continued his activities to my satisfaction." [20] Philby also boasted that until Ibn Saud was afforded British military aid and advice, his military achievements were questionable and hardly glorious. [21] However, to make himself more acceptable to all nomadic Arabs around Ibn Saud, the cunning Philby dressed like an Arab bedouin, changed his name to "Abdullah", and even underwent a suspect conversion to Islam.

Totally confident that his British masters were now 100% behind him, Ibn Saud sought their approval in 1918 to conquer the Hejaz and expel King Hussein out of Makkah. For some strange and twisted reason, Ibn Saud considered the urbanized and more sophisticated Hejaz region, with its important religious cities of Makkah and Madinah, to be "his" due to the "fact" that his violent religiously fanatical Wahhabi forefathers had once brutally conquered it for a very short period of time in the early 1800s. Relying on the will of God and the British government to fulfill his dream of annexing the Hejaz, Ibn Saud wrote a letter in August 1918 to his British advisor Philby in which he asked for a British endorsement:

"All that what [sic] belonged to my father and forefathers in the past has been inherited to me. I do not want anything more than that and by the will of God and that of yourself the British Government I am quite ready for discussion if you want." [22]

Because King/Sharif Hussein of the Hejaz - like all Arabs - was deeply hurt and very angry with the British for using him against the Muslim Turks; for lying to him about Arab unity and independence after World War I; for dividing and colonizing the Arab world with the French; for their outrageous Balfour Declaration which promised the establishment of a homeland (Israel) for Western Zionist Jews on the Arab region of Palestine; and for helping Ibn Saud and his Wahhabi fanatical clan to carve out large portions of the Arabian Peninsula to create a new Arab country, he insisted that the British honor their promises to him. Hussein persistently reminded the British that he still was *the* leader of all Arabs even after all of the destruction and division throughout the Arab world caused by Western colonialism during and after World War I.

As a result, Philby, Bell, and Cox (all of them hated Hussein and wanted to get rid of him) quietly encouraged Ibn Saud in late 1918 and 1919 to attack the Kingdom of the Hejaz. Ibn Saud then eagerly went into action. After a series of minor clashes with Hussein's military forces, the British-backed Saudi/Wahhabi forces attacked Turabah, only sixty miles from the Sharifian capital city of Makkah. Prince/Sharif Abdullah, King Hussein's second son, who was in charge of the Hejazi army in Turabah, was taken by total surprise during the night of May 25, 1919. While the Hejazis were deep asleep, the fanatical Saudi/Wahhabi forces attacked in the dead of night and slaughtered every man they could lay their hands on. By morning there was nothing left of the Hejazi army. It was probably the worst massacre in the entire history of the Arabian Peninsula. Over 6,000 Hejazi corpses covered the battlefield. [23] Sharif Abdullah was lucky enough to escape in the dark in his nightshirt.

One of the very few surviving Hejazis fleeing from the horrible massacre in Turabah later said: "I saw the blood at Turabah running like a river between the palms." [24] Even Ibn Saud himself was shocked by the carnage when he came after dawn to inspect the field. He knew right there and then that he could easily conquer all of the Hejaz. However, for fear of arousing the anger of the entire Muslim world, he and his British advisors decided to postpone the final Wahhabi assault on the Hejaz. As recent as the 1970s the

bones of the unburied Hejazis could still be seen scattered on the field. The catastrophic defeat at Turabah was crushing to King Hussein, provoked widespread panic in Islam's holiest cities, and left the Hejaz defenseless.

To solidify their friendship with their number one Arab lackey and to bestow more honor and respect on him, the British in July 1919 extended an official invitation to Ibn Saud to visit London and to meet King George V personally. Although ecstatic by the invitation, the uneducated bedouin, Ibn Saud, however, opted instead to send a delegation to London headed by his second-oldest son, 15-year old Faisal. Accompanied by Philby, Faisal went to London where he met King George V at Buckingham Palace at the end of October 1919. Faisal presented the British monarch with a letter of greeting from his father along with two presents: ornamental Arabian swords inlaid with pearls with hilt and sheath of solid gold. In return, King George V presented Faisal with an autographed photograph of himself and the queen. During his trip to Britain, Faisal visited the Natural History Museum in South Kensington, where he saw a stuffed gorilla. Faisal, the future king of Saudi Arabia, said the gorilla "reminded him of one of his Negro slaves at home." [25]

Nevertheless, when the British made a paltry compromise in 1920 with King Hussein of the Hejaz by proposing two kingships for his sons Abdullah and Faisal respectively over Jordan and Iraq, Ibn Saud quickly panicked and became very envious and angry. The Wahhabi leader was antagonized by this British offer to King Hussein and felt that he was being surrounded and outflanked by three Hashemite kingdoms in the Hejaz, Jordan, and Iraq. In April 1920 Ibn Saud promptly wrote to the British Political Agent in Bahrain, warning "the British Government has no sincere friend among the Arabs, except myself ... Consider the matter before anything happens and bridge the gulf before it widens." [26]

Nonetheless, fortified with British money, weapons, and advisors, Ibn Saud again expanded his territorial domains and practically tripled their size this time. In 1920 he conquered the region of Aseer, south of the Hejaz. Also, in 1921 he captured Hail from the patriotic Rasheeds who were left vulnerable after the defeat of Turkey in World War I. After these two quick expansionist invasions with Britain’s help, Ibn Saud dropped his own title “Emir of Riyadh” and gave himself the new title "Sultan of Najd and its Dependencies" which the British government quickly recognized.

The surviving leaders of the Rasheed clan were then taken into permanent captivity in Riyadh, where some of them were later murdered. To avoid problems from the Rasheeds in the future, however, the cunning Ibn Saud married the widow of a falling Rasheedi leader who bore him his son Abdullah, the current Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. In fact, to satisfy his notoriously insatiable sexual appetite as well as to avoid future wars and conflicts with the tribes he had conquered and massacred, Ibn Saud cunningly married into them (except from the falling Hejazis) until he had - excluding his innumerable concubines - about three hundred wives, some of them were only a one-night stand. [27] While Ibn Saud's sons are estimated to be over 125, no one knows exactly how many daughters he fathered. Because of his multiple marriages and concubines, the House of Saud has become the largest ruling house in history. Because of their high rate of multiple marriages, the extended members of the House of Saud (men, women and children) are estimated now to be around 20,000.

Nevertheless, in 1921 King Hussein of the Hejaz refused to be placated by the mediocre British gesture of installing his sons Abdullah and Faisal as kings of Jordan and Iraq. Not only did he insist that Britain live up to *all* its promises of full independence and unity for the Arabs, but also he flatly rejected the British Balfour Declaration. As a result, the British grew tired of King Hussein and his "bothersome" demands and promptly gave the green light to their subservient collaborator, Ibn Saud, to conquer the Hejaz and chase him out of it. In fact, as early as April 1920 the British were already openly discussing the possibility of Ibn Saud capturing the entire kingdom of the Hejaz. On April 15, Captain Arnold Talbot Wilson, Cox's deputy, wrote in an official memorandum: "Probability of Bin [sic] Saud seizing Mecca is being discussed with frankness in Bahrain and elsewhere in Persian Gulf and in Mesopotamia. General opinion appears to be not unfavorable to such a consummation..." [28] A few weeks later Wilson added:

"The Arab Movement is becoming steadily more anti-foreign and anti-British ... The abdication of King Husain [sic] should go far to hasten collapse of Arab Movement in its present form and will thus facilitate a settlement of the questions in Mesopotamia, Syria and Palestine on lines acceptable..." [29]

By 1922 the British became more determined in allowing Ibn Saud to conquer the Hejaz. Expressing the general feeling in the British government towards King Hussein, Sir Arthur Hirtzel, a high government official in London, wrote in June 1922: "The feeling is growing that it would be a good thing if Ibn Saud *did* establish himself at Mecca." [30] British officials, who were totally infatuated with Ibn Saud, became so hateful of Hussein to the point that even the new British Consul Reader Bullard, who arrived in Jeddah in 1922, wrote the following cruel undiplomatic words about the Arab King of the Hejaz:

"Imagine a cunning, lying, credulous, suspicious, obstinate, vain, conceited, ignorant, greedy, cruel Arab sheik suddenly thrust into a position where he has to deal with all sorts of questions he doesn't understand and where there is no power to restrain him, and you have a picture of King Husain [sic]." [31]

Meanwhile, however, it appeared that British support, money, weapons, recognition, treaties, knighthood, advisors, invitation to visit London, and a green light to annex the Hejaz - all went to Ibn Saud's bedouin head who forgot his place and who his masters were. In November 1922 he was cruelly reminded that he was nothing but a British-made stooge. During the Uqair Conference in eastern Arabia where the British permanently established the international boundaries between the newly created Arab countries, Sir Percy Cox snapped at "Sir Abdulaziz" and scolded him. Tired of Ibn Saud's greed and begging for more territories for his newly emerging British-made country, Cox loudly reprimanded him like a school principal would rebuke a disorderly student. Completely shaken, Ibn Saud almost broke down in tears, and then pathetically assured Cox that he was not ungrateful but rather very thankful to the British government, and that he considered Cox to be "... his father and mother, who had made him and raised him from nothing to the position he held, and that he would surrender half of his kingdom, nay the whole, if Sir Percy ordered." [32] Cox then took a red pencil and according to his colonialist whims divided the Arabs and - with the significance of the buried oil deposits in mind - drew on a map the permanent international borders between Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia - with even two neutral zones between Saudi Arabia and its two Arab neighbors of Kuwait and Iraq. Ibn Saud then proceeded to weep like a child lamenting and bewailing the "loss" of land to Iraq. Feeling sorry for making him cry, Cox shed some tears of his own and then patronizingly assured his crying pitiful stooge by saying: "My friend, I know exactly how you feel and for this reason I gave you two-thirds of Kuwait's territory. I don't know how Ibn Sabah will take the blow." [33] Before departing, however, Cox once again made it clear to Ibn Saud that the British were willing to let him compensate his "losses" of territories at the Uqair Conference by capturing the Hejaz from Sharif/King Hussein of Makkah.

III. The Savage Saudi/Wahhabi Capture of the Hejaz:

Two days after the embittered secular Turkish government abolished the Islamic Caliphate in March 1924, King Hussein of Makkah proclaimed himself the new Caliph (or Muslim leader) of all Muslims in the world. As a direct descendant of Prophet Mohammad and King of the Arabs, Sharif Hussein did not want the important Islamic centuries-old office of the Caliphate to disappear altogether from the lives of Muslims. Hussein's decision to assume the religious leadership of the Muslim world, however, highly antagonized both the British and Ibn Saud. While the British saw it as a direct challenge to their control of the Arab and Muslim worlds, Ibn Saud became extremely angry. Already very envious of Hussein's preeminent position both in the Arab and Muslim worlds, Ibn Saud decided to take violent action against him.

With the quiet British approval, Ibn Saud made plans to invade the Hejaz and send the direct descendants of Prophet Mohammad fleeing for their lives to other parts of the Arab world. Many important diarists at the time including Hafiz Wahbah, Ibn Saud's personal advisor and ambassador to London, confirmed that Ibn Saud always waited for British sanctions before he proceeded to do anything. [34] Fortified with British weapons and money, Ibn Saud's fanatical Wahhabi armies savagely attacked the urbanized cities of the Hejaz in the summer of 1924, mercilessly and indiscriminately massacring scores of innocent Hejazis. The first important city to be sacked was Taif, the summer capital of the Hejaz, located high in the Sarawat Mountains about 25 miles from Makkah.

In August 1924, Ibn Saud's fanatical bedouin army barbarically broke into people's houses in Taif, threatened them, and stole their money at gunpoint. They cut off the heads of boys and old men, and

were amused by the women who were crying and weeping out of horror. Many of Taif's women quickly hid deep in their water-wells to escape the on going raping and killing committed by the brutal Saudi forces. The zealot primitive Saudis/Wahhabis also murdered many Imams while they prayed in their own mosques; burned most of Taif's buildings to the ground; indiscriminately slaughtered most men they found in the streets; and stole everything that could possibly be moved. More than 400 people were reportedly butchered in that first night in Taif. [35] Widespread panic erupted in Makkah, Jeddah, Madinah, and all the other cities of the Hejaz. Thousands of people fled in fear down the mountain road to Makkah, spreading the horror stories they had witnessed in Taif.

King Hussein desperately appealed to the British for help, but received no answer. Betrayed by the British yet one more time, Sharif Hussein and his family left Makkah to Amman to stay with his son King Abdullah of Jordan. After a long period of self-exile in Cyprus, Hussein died in Amman in 1931 as a bitter and broken man; the forgotten Arab leader of an illusive united Arab kingdom. His memory and the thought of what Arab glory might have come from one united and independent large Arab country under his rule still haunt most Arab nationalists throughout the Arab world up to the present time. In fact, the flag of the Kingdom of Hejaz (known as the “Arab Revolt” flag) with its four Pan-Arab colors (red, white, black, and green) has deeply influenced the design of the flags of Arab countries. King Hussein personally chose these four colors for the Hejazi flag with reference to four past glorious Arab states: Prophet Mohammad’s (red); the Omayads (white); the Abbasids (black); and the Fatimids (green). Some current Arab flags, such as that of Palestine, are actually identical to this original Hejazi flag.

Nevertheless, when the vicious Saudis/Wahhabis finally entered Islam's holiest city, they found Makkah's terrorized inhabitants hiding in their homes, the city's streets were totally deserted, and the houses' doors and windows were tightly shut in their faces. The Wahhabis brutally broke into Makkah's houses and destroyed all musical instruments and records, gramophones, radios, cigarettes, tobacco pipes, pictures, and mirrors - all considered by them to be the work of the Devil. The primitive Wahhabis then used the wooden frames of the houses' windows and doors for cooking fire. The barbaric Wahhabis also flogged Makkah's inhabitants who wore Western clothes, gold, perfume, or silk. They desecrated most graveyards, and destroyed many of Makkah's beautiful tombs, ornamental mosques, and shrines that had stood for centuries reflecting the glorious Islamic past and the great history of the religious city. The ignorant Wahhabis also barbarically destroyed any physical traces of Prophet Mohammad's historical monuments and sights as well as all other buildings or physical structures that could be traced to his disciples "in order not to be worshiped as holy spots".

Next, Ibn Saud's Wahhabi "soldiers of God" savagely bombarded Islam's second holiest city of Madinah. To the horror of all Muslims around the world, their bombs and shells fell on Prophet Mohammad's tomb, badly damaging it. Ibn Saud's fanatical army also laid a yearlong crippling siege on the seaport city of Jeddah causing starvation. Drinking water was practically impossible to find and Jeddah's poor spent their days searching the streets for food in the garbage. Many of them even picked and ate the undigested corn found in the camels' dung. After severely bombarding the city for some time, the ignorant Saudi/Wahhabi fighters finally entered Jeddah and began to destroy the telephone lines, the radio station, and other signs of modern life considered by them to be sacrilegious and works of the Devil.

Scores of thousands of Hejazis fled for their lives to Jordan, Egypt, the Sudan, and other Arab countries, never to return to their properties, families, or friends. The Saudis and Wahhabis brutally muted the Hejazi free press. *Al Kibla, Al Hejaz, Al Raked* and other free newspapers and periodicals were forced to close down. The organized political parties of the Hejaz were also forced to close down. The highly developed Hejazi legal system with all its civil courts was disbanded; the elaborate Hejazi tolerant constitution that, unlike the Wahhabi sect, incorporated sensible Islamic teachings and manners was also brutally destroyed forever. Ibn Saud, the tyrant dictator, then destroyed all existing governmental apparatuses in the Hejaz by taking everything into his own hand. He also encouraged the common practice of slavery by personally owning hundreds of slaves and maintained a large number of slaves for all his family members. Saudi Arabia is the last country in the world to abolish slavery in 1962.

Unlike a century earlier when the Egyptian Ibraheem Pasha under Ottoman orders punished the Saudi/Wahhabi warriors for their crimes against Hejaz's religious cities and its inhabitants, this time the Arab/Muslim world was under the brutal control of the Western colonial powers. Accordingly, the fanatical

Saudis/Wahhabis escaped punishment and found protection and safety in Britain's power and friendship.

The Muslim world was totally horrified by the Saudi brutal massacres and conquest of the Hejaz. The brutal control of Makkah and Madinah by the unlettered zealot Saudis/Wahhabis was appalling not only to all Hejazis, but also to most Muslims around the world. The more sophisticated Arabs of Syria, Egypt, Iraq, and other places were deeply shocked by the barbarity of Ibn Saud's bedouin armies in the sacred birthplace of the Arabs and Islam. In fact, even today the urbanized educated Hejazis still look down on the Wahhabi Najdis in general as intolerant and uncivilized Bedouins, and deeply resent them along with the House of Saud as internal colonizers. In response to this Hejazi outlook on them, the Najdis have scornfully labeled most of the inhabitants of the major cities of the Hejaz as nothing but "leftovers" of non-Arab pilgrims, who throughout the centuries, had come to settle down in Islam's holiest cities. Accordingly, (unlike the present author [36]) most insecure Hejazis and/or those who felt the sting of Najdi racism changed their non-Arab surnames to Arab ones. However, to maintain its power, the Najdi House of Saud has found it expedient to promote and expand this division between the pure-Arab Najdis and the mixed-blooded Hejazis at all levels in Saudi Arabia.

Nevertheless, while the overwhelming majority of Hejazis supported Sharif/King Hussein, a few rich families in Jeddah, such as the house of Naseef, decided quickly to switch allegiance to Ibn Saud in order to cash in on the new regime. In December 1925 the bedouin Ibn Saud was welcomed to spend his first night in Jeddah at the house of Naseef where it is widely believed he was introduced for the first time in his life to wearing underwear, a piece of clothing that most Najdi nomads did not bother to wear at the time.

Ibn Saud, the "Sultan of Najd", who came to conquer the Hejaz in 1924 riding on a camel, went back to Riyadh in 1926 in a British motor car and immediately elevated himself from "sultan" to "king". In 1926, the British recognized him as "The King of the Dual Kingdom of Hejaz and Najd" with "the absolute independence of his dominions". However, because Najd was backward, unrefined, and had no educated people to run his government, Ibn Saud was forced to move his capital city from primitive Riyadh to the more sophisticated Makkah. After Ibn Saud's death in 1953, however, his son King Saud reinstated Riyadh as the capital city of the country.

In May 1927, the British, who helped their stooge Ibn Saud create a new and large country - the third in size in the Arab world after the Sudan and Algeria and the 13th in the world - imposed on him the Treaty of Jeddah. This Treaty was nothing more than a lopsided, unequal "friendship and cooperation" pact that made Ibn Saud even more dependent on the British. It also forced him to cede the external affairs of his country to Britain. In fact, King Hussein of the Hejaz had flatly rejected this very same treaty from Britain as a colonial imposition on his country. George Antonius, one of the greatest Arab historians, wrote: "There is little doubt that if he [Hussein] had signed the treaty he would have retained his throne." [37]

However, dissatisfied with his country's awkward name "The Dual Kingdoms of Hejaz and Najd", and unable to come up with a better and more suitable name for it, the "visionary" Ibn Saud decided to use his own family's name for the whole country. He renamed it "The Kingdom of <u>Saudi</u> Arabia" on September 22, 1932, a day that has been designated as the national day in Saudi Arabia. In fact, "Saudi" Arabia literally means the Arabia of the family of Saud. Since Saudi Arabia is considered by most educated Arabs and Muslims to be nothing more than a "family corporation" - where it is very hard to distinguish between the Saudi state and the House of Saud, which controls practically all of the national wealth - it was then befitting for Ibn Saud to name the country after his own family. However, even today, some 70 years later, most Saudi citizens (especially in the Hejaz) still bitterly resent the shameful label "Saudi" for themselves and for their holy country, as do most Muslims around the world. Nevertheless, many American reporters and "scholars" have recently begun to refer to Saudi Arabia simply as "Saudi", thereby revealing their ignorance, their insensitivity towards the Arabs of the Arabian Peninsula, or (undoubtedly though) their complete understanding of the nature of the Saudi feudal and corrupt system.

The capture of the Hejaz was the final and greatest victory of Ibn Saud's entire British-made career. No other part of the entire Muslim world was more important to Muslims, and no other part of the Arabian Peninsula was richer or more populous than the Hejaz with its important religious cities and thriving ports. With the exception of the Hejaz, Yemen, and Oman, the rest of the Arabian Peninsula was purely

nomadic and very backward, without any traces of modern life until the discovery of oil in the 1930s. Hence, these primitive and backward parts of the Arabian Peninsula were the easiest for the British to colonize and where they also installed in power their direct instruments of control over the Arabs.

Nevertheless, faithful to their colonial strategy in keeping the Arab world divided and under Western control, the British refused to allow *even* their beloved stooge, Ibn Saud, to conquer any parts of Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, or Yemen. However, during the period of time in which the British were helping Ibn Saud, he and his Wahhabi fanatical warriors killed and wounded over 400,000 Arabs. [38] This was truly a clear bloody expression of the Saudi/Wahhabi infamous boasting that they never took any prisoners. They also carried out over 40,000 public executions and 350,000 public amputations, respectively 1% and 7% of the then estimated population of four million. [39] In addition, the Saudi/Wahhabi terror forced more than one million inhabitants of the Arabian Peninsula to flee for their lives to other parts of the Arab world, never to return. [40]

IV. The Incorporation of Saudi Arabia within the US Global Imperialist/Capitalist System:

Although Britain helped create Saudi Arabia and rebuild the House of Saud with its reactionary Wahhabism from total obscurity, it was the US that reaped the fruits of the country's immense riches. During and following World War II, the United States slowly replaced Britain as the leading Western imperialist power in the Arab world, not only to keep the Arab countries under the brutal Western control but also to protect and sustain - as the center of international Zionism shifted from Europe to America - the newly Western-created state of Israel.

Though a little different in style, the American imperialist system, sometimes called neo-colonialism or neo-imperialism, is essentially the same as the old European imperialist system. It is a brutal system that exploits and controls the economic life of a Third World country without the burden of governing it. It was by this new style of Western imperialism that the Americans were able gradually to control Saudi Arabia, first, oil, and then the other vital economic and political aspects. As a result, Saudi Arabia became completely incorporated within the US-dominated international capitalist and imperialist systems. Consequently, the House of Saud became the number one Arab ruling class to serve American and Western interests at the domestic, regional, and international levels, whether in the political, economic, or military fields.

Although Arab oil was initially under the control of Britain and France, the so-called Red Line Agreement of 1928 allowed the United States to join them. However, in 1933 the British Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC) made a serious miscalculation when it thought that Ibn Saud was too greedy to ask for an initial advance cash of 50,000 British pounds plus an annual "rental" of 5,000 in order to grant it the right to search for oil in Saudi Arabia. As a result, at the end of May 1933, Ibn Saud signed his first oil agreement with Standard Oil of California (later renamed Chevron), which was willing to pay him whatever he asked for. In time, American oilmen discovered in Saudi Arabia the greatest oil bonanza in history with a proven one quarter of the world's oil reserves.

Because of its huge oil deposits, the American government itself decided during World War II to "horn in," as President Franklin D. Roosevelt put it, "on Saudi Arabian oil reserves". [41] The Americans looked upon Saudi oil as "a stupendous source of strategic power, and one of the greatest material prizes in world history, ... probably the richest economic prize in the world in the field of foreign investment." [42] For strategic reasons, Harold Ickes, Roosevelt's Secretary of the Interior and Petroleum Coordinator for National Defense saw Saudi oil as the solution to the coming dependence of the USA on foreign sources. "It is our strong belief", recorded a US memorandum of December 1942, "that the development of Saudi Arabian petroleum resources should be viewed in the light of the broad national interest." [43]

In August 1945 a State Department officer said that: "a review of the diplomatic history of the past 35 years will show that petroleum has historically played a larger part in the external relations of the United States than any other commodity." [44] In fact, James V. Forrestal, US Secretary of Defense 1947-49, said that unless the US had access to Saudi and other Arab oil, "American motorcar companies would

have to design a four-cylinder car within the next five years." [45]

When Saudi oil production was interrupted during World War II, Ibn Saud received generous subsidies from his imperialist masters both in London and Washington. While the British gave him over 3 million British pounds per year, the Americans in February 1943 added Saudi Arabia to the list of nations receiving American financial aid through its Lend-Lease program and gave it in the last two years of World War II about $33 million (nearly 8 million British pounds).

Official American control over Saudi Arabia was established in February 1943 when Roosevelt issued an Executive Order declaring - in a typical imperialist fashion - that: "I hereby find that the defense of Saudi Arabia is vital to the defense of the United States." [46] Two years later, in February 1945, Roosevelt invited Ibn Saud to meet with him on board of the cruiser U.S.S. Quincy in the Great Bitter Lake of the Suez Canal. Roosevelt made it very clear to Ibn Saud that the USA was replacing Britain in taking over the responsibility of defending the House of Saud and Saudi oil against any conceivable threat, domestic or foreign, Arab or non-Arab. Since then, every American president has also explicitly promised and guaranteed the safety and security of the House of Saud. President Ronald Reagan, for example, made it even clearer that Saudi Arabia was nothing more than an American colony or protectorate when he bluntly said on October 1, 1981 that he was not going to "permit" what happened in Iran in 1979 to happen again in Saudi Arabia.

However, notwithstanding FDR's strong commitment to protect the House of Saud, Ibn Saud still felt threatened by the progressive USSR and the communist egalitarian ideology. For example, soon after Harry Truman shocked the world with history's instant holocaust by dropping two atomic bombs on the practically defeated and willing-to-surrender Japan for no other reason than to terrorize the USSR and initiate the Cold War [47], the blood-thirsty Ibn Saud sent a message urging him to drop another atomic bomb on the USSR. [48]

Nevertheless, in 1944 the world’s largest oil consortium named the Arabian American Oil Company (ARAMCO) was created in Saudi Arabia. Four giant American oil companies formed ARAMCO: Standard Oil of California (which pioneered oil exploration in Saudi Arabia), Exxon, Mobil, and Texaco. ARAMCO is today the largest single American enterprise operating outside the US. Shortly after his retirement from his position as board chairman of Standard Oil of California, Mr. Otto N. Miller told the US Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations in 1976:

"ARAMCO is, by far, the most important and valuable foreign economic interest ever developed by US citizens ... the significance of the ARAMCO oil fields ... went beyond mere commercial implications ... as being of tremendous national importance to our country." [49]

Ever since its creation, however, ARAMCO has stood as an ugly symbol of American imperialism in the Arab world. It has behaved like a completely independent state within Saudi Arabia, stealing Saudi oil at will; treating its Saudi and Arab employees as second-class citizens in their own native land; preferring to hire Americans (many of whom look down upon the Arabs and Islam) often with less qualifications than its Arab employees and paying them higher salaries (a common phenomenon all over Saudi Arabia, even outside the oil industry [50]); and providing the highest jobs, benefits, housing, and other facilities for its American and Western employees while denying the same privileges for its Arab and Muslim employees. Although the Saudi government supposedly has completed its "takeover" of ARAMCO since 1980, the situation is still basically the same even today.

While the Arab and Muslim countries - like the rest of the Third World - were bravely struggling in the 1940s to free themselves of Western imperialism, Ibn Saud proudly opened his country for his American backers to establish a permanent military presence in Saudi Arabia. In 1946 the US built a huge military airbase in Dhahran, not only to protect the despotic House of Saud both from domestic and foreign enemies, but also to control "American oil" in Saudi Arabia. Still in existence today, this American airbase along with other sophisticated American military underground nuclear facilities that were built in recent years, have made Saudi Arabia a virtual American colony. Most Arabs and Muslims have looked upon the American military presence in Saudi Arabia as a disgrace to the birthplace of the Arabs and Islam.

Concerned only with the House of Saud's well being and with his imperialist masters in the West, Ibn Saud never cared about any criticism from any Arab or Muslim source. In 1948 Saudi Arabia once again disgraced all Arabs and all Muslims by being the only Arab country that did not send army units to fight in Palestine [51] against the invading US-supported colonizing Western Zionists. In fact, nine years earlier, Ibn Saud wanted to extract 20 million British pounds from the British Zionist leader Chaim Weizmann, later the first President of Israel, in return for a Saudi overt acceptance of the establishment of a Western Jewish State over the land of Palestine. It was the "Muslim" "Abdullah" Philby, Ibn Saud's British special advisor, who met with Weizmann on September 17, 1939 to negotiate secretly the unsuccessful deal. [52] Apparently, Weizmann figured that the Western Zionists could easily steal Palestine without bribing Ibn Saud or anyone else in the Muslim world.

To reward Ibn Saud for his loyalty and dedication to the US as well as to solve his inferiority complex about his nomadic origin, his American friends in ARAMCO sponsored in the 1940s, a massive study on the history of the House of Saud in order to boost its image. This ARAMCO study, which is used even today by many American and Western "experts" and "authorities" on Saudi Arabia, fabricated a family tree for the House of Saud which showed its members to be of "noble" origin and biologically connected to none other than Prophet Mohammad himself! [53]

Since Ibn Saud's death in 1953, the House of Saud has continued its open treachery and shameful tradition of serving Western interests and of opening up Saudi Arabia for American and Western capitalist penetration and exploitation. Like their father, all of Ibn Saud's sons who assumed power (Saud, Faisal, Khalid, and Fahad) became brutal dictators and relied very heavily on the US to protect them, not only from their own citizens (i.e., coup attempts), but also from the embittered displaced Palestinians, Arab nationalists, Arab communists, other Muslim countries, and the former Soviet Union.

1. Saud's Reign: 1953-1964

Because of King Saud's corrupt government, notorious playboy life-style, large collection of harem, wild and wasteful spending, and opulent palaces in and out of Saudi Arabia, the country went bankrupt and its currency was devalued during his rule. Both the US government and ARAMCO treated Saud like a typical stooge during his entire 11-year reign. For example in 1954, fearing that ARAMCO's monopoly of Saudi oil might be broken, the US government forced King Saud to cancel his large joint business venture with the Greek oil tycoon, Aristotle Onassis, to transport some of the Saudi oil on his tankers. The US, which had just finished destroying the popular government of Dr. Mohammad Mossadaq in Iran because he nationalized Iranian oil, threatened its puppet Saud with a similar fate. US Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, warned that if Saud did not back down from his business venture with Onassis, Washington "... would of course utilize every means to make him and his advisers realize what disastrous effect this would have on his position, his government, and his country." [54] Saud immediately bowed to his masters in Washington and cancelled the oil deal with Onassis.

In addition to combating independent Arab and Muslim oil policies, the US has always fought Arab unity. Since it empowers the Arabs, Arab unity has always been a frightening nightmare not only to Israel and the imperialist West, but also to the House of Saud, which fears losing its power. For example, Israel and the imperialist West felt threatened in February 1958 by the merger of Egypt and Syria into a new powerful Arab country called the United Arab Republic (UAR) under the leadership of Egypt's Jamal Abdul-Nasser. Five months later panic once again erupted in Israel, Britain, the US, and Saudi Arabia when Arab revolutionaries seized powers in Iraq on July 14, 1958 and overthrew its corrupt pro-Western monarchy.

To quickly prevent other Arab countries from merging with the UAR or joining it in a federation as North Yemen later did, the next day, July 15, 1958, American troops landed in Lebanon, and British troops landed first in Jordan on July 17, and second in Libya on July 19. The CIA and ARAMCO then developed a secret plan for King Saud to assassinate Nasser and break up the union between Egypt and Syria. In March 1958 King Saud paid two million British pounds to the chief of the Syrian Army Intelligence, Colonel Abdulhamid as-Sarraj, not only to dissolve the UAR but more importantly to kill Nasser by blowing up his airplane over Damascus.

This American-Saudi conspiracy was to be followed by other assassination attempts on the lives of other great Arab nationalist leaders like Shukri al-Kuwwatly, the Syrian President, who was nicknamed "The First Arab Patriot" for giving up power to allow Nasser to become the leader of the UAR. However, after Nasser and as-Sarraj exposed the American-Saudi plot by displaying a copy of King Saud's bribe check in several Arab newspapers and magazines, the Saudi monarch was deeply embarrassed and the House of Saud became the target of a wide campaign throughout the Arab press, describing its members as disgraceful American stooges and despicable traitors to the Arabs and Islam.

Nonetheless, American, Israeli, and Saudi efforts, both secret and open, to destroy the UAR, eventually came to fruition in September 1961 when the UAR broke up. Later, while he was in exile in Cairo in 1967, after being overthrown in 1964 by his younger half-brother Faisal, Saud personally admitted to Nasser that he had spent over 12 million British pounds to break up the UAR. [55]

However, to counter Nasser's Arab nationalism, socialist measures, leadership of the Arab world, close relations with the Soviet Union, and above all his dynamic popular call for Arab unity, Washington and London instructed King Saud to use Islam as a political weapon and a counter ideology to Arab nationalism. Hence, in 1962 Saudi Arabia sponsored an international Islamic conference in Makkah. The conferees created an international religious regional organization called the World Muslim League (WML) with its headquarters in Makkah. An ultra-conservative right-wing Wahhabi organization, the WML tried to discredit Nasser, Arab unity, and Arab nationalism in its very first meeting. In that conference the WML declared that: "Those who disavow Islam and distort its call under the guise of nationalism are actually the most bitter enemies of the Arabs, whose glories are entwined with the glories of Islam." [56]

The Western-instigated Saudi-Egyptian conflict quickly culminated in a bloody confrontation in North Yemen's civil war (1962-69). While Egypt sent troops to support the shaky new left-wing Arab nationalist republican government of Abdullah al-Sallal that overthrew the Yemeni feudal monarchy, Saudi Arabia sent money and weapons in support of the overthrown Imam Badr and royalist supporters who were trying to stage a counter-coup.

However, dissatisfied with King Saud's ineptness, corrupt and feudal government, wasteful spending, and inability to deal with Nasser, the American government quietly arranged in 1964 to replace him with his younger and more cunning half-brother Faisal. Saud was forced to leave the country and live in exile until his death in Athens in 1969.

2. Faisal's Reign: 1964-1975

During his entire reign, King Faisal, the so-called "pious", continued the House of Saud's notorious tradition of allowing the Americans to run Saudi Arabia, thus increasing its reliance on the West for security and protection. To fight Arab nationalism, Nasser, and Egypt's military support of the North Yemeni revolution, Washington and London quietly instructed Faisal, as they did Saud, to use Islam as a political weapon. This time, however, Islam was used by Faisal to build a *political* Islamic alliance of conservative Muslim countries - both Arab and non-Arab - not only to counter Pan-Arabism, but also to dilute it.

To promote his Western-inspired "Pan-Islamism" [57] Faisal undertook official state visits in 1965-66 to nine Muslim pro-Western (four Arab and five non-Arab) right-wing countries. Two of these non-Arab countries, Turkey and Iran, not only had strained relations with Nasser's Egypt, but also had good relations with Israel since 1950. The Western puppet the Shah of Iran, who hated Nasser with a great deal of passion, had also supplied Israel with oil.

Because Faisal's "Pan-Islamism" was in reality the brainchild of Walt W. Rostow [58], President Lyndon Johnson's adviser on national security affairs, Nasser and the other Arab nationalist leaders in such progressive Arab countries as Iraq, Algeria, North Yemen, and Syria (Syrian Baathists had ousted the anti-Nasser "secessionists" in March 1962) immediately unmasked it as an American/British conspiracy aimed at dividing the Arab world and undermining Arab hopes for unity.

Arab nationalists stressed the fact that Faisal's "Pan-Islamic alliance" was nothing more than another

Western pact similar to the 1955 British-created Baghdad Pact (later renamed Central Treaty Organization or CENTO), and the 1957 Eisenhower Doctrine alignment, in order to re-organize the Arab/Muslim world in a new conservative pro-Western alliance. Consequently, Faisal's call for an "Islamic alliance" did not even receive any significant support from any Arab or Muslim country and was practically dead even before it was launched.

Desperate and worried that the House of Saud would be overthrown, King Faisal spent most of 1966-67 begging his imperialist masters in London and Washington for more protection. For example, when Britain decided in 1967 to withdraw from South Yemen and allow it to have its independence, Faisal panicked, especially with Nasser's troops stationed in neighboring North Yemen. Unlike all Arabs and all Muslims who felt gratified that South Yemen was finally gaining its freedom after a long and bloody national liberation struggle similar to that of Algeria, King Faisal was instead distressed and deeply worried that British withdrawal from South Yemen could create a "vacuum" which would strengthen the position of Arab nationalists.

While in London in May 1967, Faisal practically begged the British not only to keep some of their military units in the area after granting South Yemen its independence, but also to accept a binding military commitment to use them [59] against Arab nationalists who could endanger the stability of the House of Saud and the other pro-Western Arab monarchies of the Gulf. The British calmed Faisal down, agreed with him, delayed their withdrawal from South Yemen for six more months until January 1968, and established a naval and air power in the area to deal with any potential Arab or foreign "threat" that might develop after their withdrawal.

However, on August 21, 1969 an insane deliberate burning of al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem - which had fallen under the brutal Israeli occupation since the June 1967 Arab-Israeli war - suddenly brought Faisal's moribund "Pan-Islamism" to the forefront and saved it from complete oblivion. The Zionist fire, which badly damaged this third holiest shrine in Islam, sent a wave of shocks across the entire Muslim world and swiftly resulted in the very first Islamic summit conference held in Morocco a month later. This was the way in which Faisal's "Pan-Islamism" was born from which sprang the Jeddah-headquartered Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

Holding sporadic summit conferences and annual conferences at the foreign ministers level, the OIC is in reality an ineffectual regional political organization that could not even stop the bloody 8-year conflict between two of its leading Muslim members, Iraq and Iran. Although the OIC was originally designed by Saudi Arabia to weaken the Cairo-headquartered Arab League, to dilute Arabism, and to destroy Nasser's call for Arab unity, it did in a small way bring the larger non-Arab Muslim world closer together with the Arab world. The OIC created several international Islamic institutions; the most important of these is the Jeddah-headquartered Islamic Development Bank.

Nevertheless, when the great Nasser suddenly died of a heart attack on September 28, 1970, the House of Saud, Israel and the imperialist West felt totally relieved. While Nasser’s enemies both in and outside the Arab world quietly celebrated his disappearance, his death caused a great deal of grief throughout the Arab world, the like of which has never been witnessed. His funeral was the largest of any head of state in human history. To the Arabs, the extremely popular Nasser was the modern day Salah ad-Din who heroically stood up to Israel and the imperialist West against all odds, especially during the 1956 Suez-Crisis/Arab-Israeli war. Nasser's picture still adorns many Arab living rooms, from Morocco to Bahrain.

Nasser's unexpected death at the age of 52, however, dealt a sever blow to Arab nationalism from which it has yet to recover. With his disappearance, Egypt became vulnerable to American and Saudi manipulations. Once again, under American instructions, Faisal began to court the new Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. He promised Sadat generous financial support if he would steer away from the USSR; reduce Egypt's support of Arab nationalism and call for Arab unity; and change the Egyptian economy from socialist to capitalist.

Because the Suez Canal had been closed since the 1967 war, and Israel occupied the Sinai Peninsula, where it freely exploited the Egyptian oil fields, Egypt was in a desperate need of economic and financial support. In order to liberate the Sinai with its oil fields and re-open the Suez Canal, Sadat had little choice

but to give in to Faisal's pressure. In July 1972, Sadat expelled all Soviet military advisors from Egypt and placed all their bases and equipment under Egyptian control. However, in a public speech Sadat said that the USSR's "excessive caution" as an ally was the real reason behind his decision - a decision that had clearly pleased Faisal, Israel, the US, and the rest of the imperialist West.

However, during the October 1973 war when the Egyptians destroyed the Israeli "indestructible" Bar-Lev Line on the eastern shores of the Suez Canal, Washington immediately panicked. To tilt the outcome of the war in favor of Israel, the US quickly re-supplied Israel with massive military equipments from its bases in the Portuguese Azores; provided Israel with a $2.2 billion for emergency military aid; and even ordered a world-wide US military alert, claiming that the Russians were going to enter the 1973 war on the side of the Arabs.

As a result of this outrageous American support for Israel during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, the Arab oil producing countries angrily retaliated by quickly reducing oil production, sharply raising oil prices, and imposing their highly effective oil embargo against the US. Anti-Western Arab countries such as Libya, Iraq, Algeria, Egypt, and Syria spearheaded the powerful Arab oil embargo against the US and the Netherlands. For fear of violent domestic uprisings, however, even the pro-Western feudal Gulf Arab monarchies were forced to join in on the popular embargo. Nevertheless, although it was publicly announced that Saudi Arabia had joined in the Arab oil embargo against the US, the flow of Saudi oil to the US was never interrupted during the embargo. Saudi oil destined for the US was actually rerouted across Europe and via various refineries in the Caribbean to the American East Coast. [60] In fact, the Shah of Iran said on American television at the time that the flow of Saudi oil to the US was never interrupted. However, despite the fact that Faisal did not start or even carry out an actual oil embargo against the US, Saudi and American propaganda machines projected him as the "real leader" and "hero" of the Arab oil embargo. This was done specifically to boost Faisal’s image and shore up domestic and Arab support for the unpopular and shaky House of Saud. The American Zionist-leaning *Time* magazine even selected Faisal as the 1974 "Man of the Year" displaying his picture on its cover. All of this was done intentionally to deflect the “honor” from the real anti-Western Arab nationalist leaders like Gaddafi whose <u>real</u> oil embargo against the US lasted until December 31, 1974, nine more months than the supposedly Saudi "embargo" which ended only in March 1974.

On April 30, 1974, merely a month after most Arab countries had lifted their oil embargo, the head of the Saudi Intelligence (the step-child of the CIA) and brother-in-law to King Faisal, Kamal Adham, referred to US policy makers in Washington as "our American friends". [61] Six weeks later, in June 1974, President Richard Nixon personally flew to Jeddah to meet with Faisal. To protect the House of Saud and "American oil" in Saudi Arabia as well as to exploit the immense rising Saudi wealth, Nixon formalized with Faisal a billion-dollar-plus sale of highly sophisticated American-made weapons and warplanes. In 1975, Faisal confirmed to *Time* correspondent Wilton Wynn "US relations are a pillar of Saudi policy". [62]

In March 1975, the American-supported dictatorial and treacherous House of Saud revealed its true feudal and violent bedouin nature when Prince Faisal Ibn Musa'id assassinated his Uncle King Faisal to avenge the death of his older brother Khalid. Ten years earlier, prince Khalid Ibn Musa'id, along with an armed group of reactionary Wahhabis, violently attacked the Riyadh television station because they did not like what they had seen on the air. When contacted about the attack, King Faisal immediately ordered the police to shoot the attackers.

King Faisal's assassination, however, sent a wave of panic across Washington's imperialist apparatus where the concern for the House of Saud's security is paramount. The White House soon took a deep sigh of relief when Faisal's half-brother, Khalid, the next in line to assume the throne, peacefully became the new king. Prince Musa'id was publicly beheaded in June 1975. The CIA and the House of Saud have since intensified their security efforts all over Saudi Arabia.

3. Khalid's Reign: 1975-1982

Like his father and half-brothers, King Khalid relied heavily on the West to protect the House of Saud. Also, like most members of the House of Saud, King Khalid was uneducated and a simpleton who could not even deliver easy speeches written for him. When he "presided" over the Saudi Cabinet, according to

some popular rumors, he would occupy himself by cutting his fingernails or by looking at magazine pictures. However, under his rule, Saudi Arabia experienced the best economic boom ever in its history, the like of which might never be experienced again by any other country.

Thanks to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which was formed in 1960 in Baghdad, Saudi Arabia and the rest of the Third World oil producing nations gradually took hold of their own oil wealth, which was completely in the hands of the exploitative Western oil companies. These Western oil corporations were led by the so-called "Seven Sisters", five American: Chevron, Exxon, Mobil, Texaco, and Gulf (bought by Chevron in 1984); British Petroleum; and Shell (Dutch). However, it was the 1973 Arab/Israeli war and the subsequent Arab oil embargo that served as the catalyst for the short-lived power of OPEC.

Because Saudi Arabia has more oil than any other country in the world, it has become the richest and most powerful member of OPEC, especially when oil prices began to rise sharply during and after the 1973 Arab/Israeli war. By the late 1970s and early 1980s, when OPEC power reached its peek, Saudi Arabia was amassing the incredible amount of over $100 billion a year from oil. But since Saudi Arabia has always been under Western control, American and other Western corporations have reaped most of its wealth, either by selling it unnecessary heavy weapons worth tens of billions of dollars, or by starting large joint business ventures with the top members of the House of Saud.

When the 1979 Islamic revolution in Iran led by Ayatollah Khomeini toppled the Shah and his corrupt undemocratic monarchy, and established a democratic republic in its place, President Jimmy Carter and King Khalid panicked. For the first time in its sordid history in the Muslim world, the US government was also deeply humiliated when its diplomats were held captive in Tehran as a direct result of its decision to bring the Shah into the US. The subsequent unsuccessful rescue operation by the most powerful nuclear power in the world added to the euphoria throughout the Muslim world.

Washington's fear that Iran’s anti-monarchy Islamic revolution might spread to destroy its Arab royal lackeys was underscored by the Makkah uprising and the seizure of its Grand Mosque in November-December 1979 by Muslim revolutionaries. Deeply afraid for the House of Saud's survival and unable to break the siege of Makkah, King Khalid begged his imperialist backers in the West to come once again to the rescue. In December 1979, the imperialist west quickly responded. To break the siege of Makkah, non-Muslim British and French paratroops entered its Grand Mosque (in violation of Islamic law); flooded it with water; applied electricity to it; and electrocuted most of the rebels. [63] At least 227 people were killed and over 400 wounded. The rebels' leader, Juhayman, was killed and 63 of his fellow rebels were publicly beheaded. The Saudi television broadcasted the executions live to teach the citizens a brutal lesson.

In January 1980, a month after the Soviet Union sent troops into Afghanistan to protect its revolutionary regime against American threats; the US government announced the Carter Doctrine to "protect" the Arabian Gulf region. Similar to the 1957 Eisenhower Doctrine, the Carter Doctrine was basically designed to protect the House of Saud and the other Western-controlled Arab monarchies of the Gulf as well as to maintain Western control over Arab oil. Later in the year, on September 13, 1980, a State Department spokesman announced that the US was committed to protecting Saudi Arabia against "all external and internal attempts to destabilize it." [64] This declaration was followed by extensive military maneuvers by the American Air Force units stationed at the US Dhahran Airbase, and by the establishment in the Gulf area of the American Rapid Deployment Force (later renamed the US Central Command).

A few days later, Iraq was encouraged by the US, Kuwait, and King Khalid to attack Iran. While the West, especially the US, supplied Iraq with advanced heavy weapons for its belligerent war, King Khalid and the other Arab feudal monarchs paid tens of billions of dollars to Baghdad (of which Saudi Arabia alone contributed $30 billion) to finance its weapon-shopping and bloody 8-year war which eventually claimed one million Muslim lives. Moreover, with Washington's knowledge and approval, King Khalid - in a similar performance of King Saud's 1958 Nasser assassination debacle - paid a $10-million bribe in 1981 to Iranian Air Force Colonel Raed Rukmi to stage a coup to overthrow Khomeini and his Islamic republic. [65]

To solidify its protection of King Khalid and his ruling House of Saud, Washington approved in 1981 a massive arms sale package to Saudi Arabia which included five AWACS planes (to be manned by Americans), the most sophisticated military Airborne Warning and Control System in the world. Also, in addition to its Dhahran Airbase in Saudi Arabia, its Central Command in the Gulf, the US government - with King Khalid's approval - began to quietly build in Saudi Arabia (at Saudi expense) one of the most sophisticated underground military nuclear facilities in the entire Arab world.

However, unable to destroy the Islamic Iranian revolution either by war or bribes, King Khalid - with Washington's arrangement and encouragement - decided instead to join forces in 1981 with the other pro-Western Gulf monarchs to form the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). As a regional supra-national organization, the Riyadh-headquartered GCC has effectively brought all the six feudal Gulf monarchies (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman) under one regional tightly organized Western-controlled umbrella to be protected not only against domestic but also foreign threats. Designed to weaken both the Arab League and the OIC, the GCC has effectively reduced whatever little political and financial support the oil-rich Gulf monarchies had for Arabism and Islamism, and has shifted their focus and energies to the purposes of supporting each other and of serving the imperialist West.

4. Fahad’s Reign: 1982-?

When King Khalid suddenly died of a heart attack in June 1982, his half-brother Fahad became the new King of Saudi Arabia. Like his half-brother King Saud, Fahad is notoriously known for his womanizing, gambling, drinking, smoking (all taboos in Wahhabi rules), brutality, laziness, love of money, and opulent palaces both in and out of the country. He is recognized by some to be the richest man in the world.

While most Saudis, Arabs, and Muslims hate Fahad and consider him to be a brutal dictator who symbolizes everything evil about the corrupt Wahhabi House of Saud, American policy makers are infatuated with him because of his total subservient dedication to them and to their bloody imperialist causes around the world. Ever so loyal to his American masters and protectors, Fahad - much to the detriment of Saudi Arabia; the Arab countries; the Muslim countries; OPEC countries; and many other Third World countries - has elevated the Saudi-American alliance to new heights. Under Fahad, Saudi Arabia has been totally incorporated - more than ever before - within the US global capitalist/imperialist system.

To avoid the pinch of another Arab oil embargo, to reduce Arab and Muslim wealth, and to weaken OPEC - the only real power the Arabs have - the US government has worked diligently through its puppet House of Saud to curtail the power of the oil cartel until it has practically destroyed it. To please his Western backers, Fahad has adopted a very generous pro-American oil policy by increasing Saudi oil production and by pressuring other OPEC members to keep the oil prices low.

When OPEC's progressive Arab member-states - such s Libya, Iraq, and Algeria - refused to go along with such blatant pro-Western and anti-OPEC oil policy, Fahad's Saudi Arabia began to increase its oil production gradually (in violation of its OPEC quota) until it eventually created a world oil glut. As a result of Saudi oil overproduction that had flooded the world market, oil prices came crashing down. For example, the average price of a barrel of oil fell from its height of about $40.00 a barrel in the late 1970s and early 1980s to about $7.00 by 1986. To avoid his obvious responsibility in weakening OPEC and in causing the 1986 oil market crash, King Fahad quickly blamed the popular Saudi oil minister, Ahmad Zaki Yamani. In October 1986, Fahad unceremoniously fired Yamani, a highly educated Hejazi, of whom he was envious because of his worldwide fame, which had outshined the fame of the leading members of the House of Saud.

Thanks to King Fahad, the huge wealth and the oil boom experienced by Arab and Muslim oil countries quickly came to an end. Much to the economic detriment of its Arab and Muslim member-sates - despite a moderate rebounding of oil prices by the late 1980s to about $17 a barrel - OPEC itself has become severely crippled in a very short period of time. Fahad's policy of oil overproduction has also affected even mighty Saudi Arabia itself, which between 1982 and 1988 had suffered seven years of budget deficits. The budget deficit for 1993 alone (after the 1991 Gulf war had drained the Saudi treasury) was $15-20 billion or about 30-40% of the total government income.

In recent years, the economic situation has deteriorated to the point that Saudi Arabia's current international debt is estimated to be as high as $100 billion, more than two years’ worth of its present oil income of $45-50 billion. [66] As a result, Fahad's government has drastically cut most governmental subsidies to education, health, housing, transportation, and utilities. Consequently, the standard of living in the country has declined, and the jobless rate among Saudis has increased in recent years.

In addition to using King Fahad to weaken OPEC, the US has used him to finance many of its global anticommunist terrorist activities in which Israel has also been involved. Like his two previous bothers, King Faisal and King Khalid, King Fahad has cooperated with the US and Israel to destroy communism in the Third World. During most of the 1980s and early 1990s Fahad spent tens of millions of dollars to support the brutal US wars against revolutionaries in such countries as Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, Somalia, Chad, Zaire, and the Sudan. King Fahad also paid $2 million to the CIA to help finance a secret operation to prevent Italian communists from gaining power. [67]

When the USSR collapsed in 1990 - after 45 years of American embargoes; nuclear encirclements; costly arms races; bloody US-imposed global Cold War confrontations; and a world-wide anticommunist propaganda campaign in all major languages - King Fahad and the rest of the House of Saud joyfully joined their brutal imperialist backers in Washington and London by privately and publicly celebrating the "defeat" of international communism and the "victory" of international capitalism.

To please his masters in Washington, King Fahad has also become economically helpful to the US. While he has always begrudged the sharing of the immense Saudi oil wealth with his poor Arab and Muslim neighbors, Fahad has had no problem being generous to the US. For example, to help the US economy as well as to finance the chronic American budget deficit (a direct result of Washington's brutal military interferences in every corner of the world), Saudi Arabia has invested over $114 billion in US Certificates of Deposits and Treasury Bills; deposited most of its $100-billion-plus surplus funds in US banks; and has become the world's largest buyer of American military equipment.

However, since the US has guaranteed the protection of the House of Saud from both foreign and domestic enemies, the highly sophisticated and extremely expensive American weapons are neither needed nor used in Saudi Arabia. In fact, Saudi military contracts are mostly geared to beef up the private Saudi royal guards, to make hundreds of millions of dollars in commissions for the top members of the House of Saud, and to recycle Saudi petro-dollars to US military contractors. For example, King Fahad's nephew, prince Khalid Bin Sultan who proudly collaborated with US General Norman Schwarzkopf in the brutal massacre of the Iraqi Arabs in 1991, has made $2 billion in commissions [68] when Saudi Arabia bought US weapons before, during, and after that war.

Under King Fahad's rule, most of the huge Saudi reserve money deposited Western banks, as well as that of Kuwait, were eventually siphoned by the American government to "recover" its cost of "protecting" Saudi Arabia from "an Iraqi invasion", restoring the "legitimate" Kuwaiti House of Sabah to power, occupying the GCC's rich oil fields (an American dream since the 1973 Arab oil embargo), and brutally invading and occupying Iraq.

In addition to helping the American economy, King Fahad pleased his backers in Washington by supplying the pre-1994 racist South Africa with oil and has also secretly helped the Israeli economy. In total violation of the Arab League's boycott of the Zionist State, Fahad's Saudi Arabia has knowingly bought American products, planes, and other military equipment containing parts manufactured in Israel. Also, Saudi billionaire Adnan Khashoggi, a personal friend and business partner of King Fahad, secretly sold Israeli ammonia and other Israeli goods to Arab countries, using bills of lading supplied by the countries to show they originated in Italy. [69]

Moreover, King Fahad also helped the Israelis in their fight against the Arab/Muslim Lebanese Shiites who bravely resisted Israel's brutal 1982 invasion of their country. In 1985, under instructions from King Fahad, the Saudi ambassador to Washington, Prince Bandar Bin Sultan (Fahad's nephew), plotted with the CIA in an assassination attempt on the life of the Shiite Muslim Lebanese Leader of Hizbollah, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah. Bandar paid the CIA $3 million to place a car full of dynamites in front of

Fadlallah's Beirut residence. When the powerful CIA car bomb went off on March 8, eighty innocent Lebanese were killed and over 200 others were wounded; Sheikh Fadlallah was not hurt. [70]

Although most Arabs and Muslims, like most people around the globe, consider the CIA to be the world's number one terrorist organization because of its well documented violent record against many countries [71], Prince Bandar unabashedly and even proudly admitted in 1989 on CBS's "60 Minutes" that he had no problem in working with the American government at any level, including the CIA. In fact, Bandar's total cooperation with and dedication to his masters in the American government, along with his family's generous contribution of tens of millions of dollars to the US-created terrorist Contra in Nicaragua, earned him an award from the CIA whose late director, William Casey, was a very close personal friend of his. While Bandar has been notoriously very frugal in his contributions to Arab and Muslim causes and organizations throughout the United States, he has been extremely charitable with his friends in the American Jewish community. For example, the American Jewish actor Paul Newman - who has always displayed his Zionist tendencies and has never hid his hatred for the Palestinian Arabs who fight for their legitimate rights against Israel - received from Bandar in the mid 1980s a very generous contribution of several million dollars to help him build a medical center.

To complete the Saudi-American alliance and to turn his country totally over to his American masters, King Fahad in 1990 shocked and disgraced most Arabs and Muslims by allowing over 500,000 American troops to occupy Saudi Arabia and to destroy Iraq, despite the fact that Iraq did not invade or even threaten Saudi Arabia. Fahad’s Saudi Arabia contributed $56 billion towards the costs of the vicious 1991 US war against Iraq.

King Fahad also secretly conspired against Arab countries in order to please his masters in the West. Fahad subverted democracy in Algeria in 1992 by preventing the Islamic Party from reaching power in that country. And reminiscent of his half-brother Saud's shameful attempt in 1958 to destroy the union between Egypt and Syria, Fahad - with American approval - unsuccessfully tried by all means in 1994 to break up the young union between North Yemen and South Yemen when a civil war broke out in Yemen. Moreover, Fahad’s House of Saud has been secretly working – along with Israel and the US - in trying to break up the largest Arab country, the Sudan, by supporting the rebels in Southern Sudan who are trying to create a new non-Arab country.

However as a result of the stroke suffered by King of Fahad in 1995 that has left him practically incapacitated, Crown Prince Abdullah (Fahad’s half brother) has become the de facto leader of Saudi Arabia. Abdullah has continued the shameful tradition of the House of Saud in serving the USA. Following the terrorist attacks on the US on September 11, 2001, the House of Saud has once again widely opened Saudi Arabia for its American masters to use it as they please in their brutal war and occupation of Afghanistan, which was accused by the US (without any solid proof) to be behind the September 11 disasters. Abdullah has also permitted the US to flood Saudi Arabia with American FBI agents (some of them are American Jews with Zionist tendencies) to interrogate, intimidate and harass Saudis and other Arabs as they wish. Under American orders, the House of Saud has also changed not only the Islamic school curricula in Saudi Arabia, but also the meaning of word of “Jihad” in Islam.

And to please his American backers, Crown Prince Abdullah proposed during the 2002 Arab summit conference in Beirut a sell-out of the Palestinian problem by suggesting that all Arab countries would have friendly diplomatic, political, economic and cultural relations Israel if the Palestinians were allowed to have a state of their own.

Finally, in 2003 the House of Saud has once again shamed all Arabs and Muslims by totally collaborating with the US in its illegal war and invasion of Iraq, which has resulted in the horrible massacres of thousands of Iraqis and the destruction of their country. The House of Saud has not only opened Saudi Arabia to be used by the Americans as they wish in their military efforts against Iraq, but has also given them financial support and unlimited free supply of oil for their war efforts and brutal occupation of Iraq. Thousands of American troops are now deployed in Saudi Arabia not only in the US Dhahran Airbase and other sophisticated underground nuclear Saudi facilities built by Americans at Saudi expense, but also all over the country in order to control the Saudi oil fields and to protect the House of Saud from any domestic uprising.

V. Saudi Arabia and the West: Concluding Remarks:

Today the House of Saud clearly represents the most important direct instrument of American control over the Arabs. By its open treachery and subservient collaboration on all fronts with the Western enemies of Arabs and Islam, the House of Saud has disgraced and betrayed, not only the citizens of Saudi Arabia, but also the displaced and dispossessed Palestinians, the entire Arab world, the entire Muslim world, and even the oil producing nations of OPEC. In fact, as a member of the Arab League, Saudi Arabia (and to a lesser extent the other GCC member states) does its utmost to sabotage Arab integration and Arab cooperation in every area particularly in the political field.

In US-supported Saudi Arabia there is no political freedom; no religious freedom; no academic freedom; no journalistic freedom; and no social freedom. Saudi citizens are denied the simple basic right of marrying foreigners, movie theaters are outlawed throughout the country, and women are denied even the basic right to drive cars. In fact, the House of Saud represents today the most feudal, corrupt, and brutal ruling class in the entire world.

The huge Saudi wealth is highly concentrated in the hands of the House of Saud and its close circles. Each lowly prince receives a "welfare" monthly salary of $20,000 whether he works or not. If the prince has two wives and ten children, he receives $260,000 a month, or over $3 million a year. Important princes receive as much as $100 million a year each. [72] In addition, members of the House of Saud and their relatives are chairmen of 520 Saudi corporations. [73] The House of Saud's annual budget is about 15% of the national income, or between $4 billion and $7 billion (excluding pay-offs from arms deals and regular non-oil trade). [74] Most top members of the House of Saud are actually close business partners with the British royal family and America's "royal" families like the Rockefellers, the DuPonts, the Morgans, and the Melons. Leading members of the House of Saud also regularly deposit their tens of billions of dollars in American and/or British banks, which are owned by their Western business partners.

From the early 1950s on, Saudi Arabia has truly become "the 52nd state of the American union" (Israel holds the distinction of being "the 51st state of the American union", a privilege in fact is even better than that given to any of the 50 states, because none of them receives as much financial and other benefits as Israel does from the US federal government) and a comprador state which clearly serve American and Western interests in the Arab world. In fact, Saudi Arabia is a de facto American colony supported and protected 100% by the US imperialist government. It has become the most important American overseas possession, where nothing of great importance ever happens, whether in domestic or foreign affairs, without the prior approval and/or knowledge of Washington. American diplomats, oilmen, businessmen, military personnel, and CIA agents have all become interchangeable and hard to distinguish in Saudi Arabia. By and large the Americans run Saudi Arabia. All attempts by the Saudi army or air force to overthrow the feudal House of Saud, have been foiled by the American government and CIA agents who crawl all over the country like ants.

The overwhelming American military and non-military presence in Saudi Arabia is deeply resented not only in Saudi Arabia, but also throughout the Arab and Muslim worlds. This resentment has been underscored in Saudi Arabia in the last ten years by an ever-increasing number of opposition groups, demonstrations, and terrorist attacks aimed at Western interests and the Saudi government. At least 80% of Saudis support Osama Bin Ladin and his Al-qaeda group.

The hypocritical American government and the US media, which constantly lecture the world about democracy, freedom and human rights, and insist that the progressive Arab countries and the communist countries hold democratic and regular free elections, rarely (if ever) say anything about freedom, democracy, elections, and human rights in Saudi Arabia or in any of the other Western-puppet, dictatorial, feudal monarchies in the area.

The reason for this American hypocrisy is very simple. If the British-created and American-supported House of Saud is overthrown, whether by Arab nationalists or Islamic fundamentalists, the US in particular and the West in general will lose practically all their power in the Arab world; the rest of the

feudal family dictatorships may also fall (the domino effect); and Israel will feel totally insecure. Also, billions of dollars in Arab money (Saudi and other GCC capital) may be withdrawn from Western and American banks to be put to good use in the needy Arab world. This will have a devastating effect on US and British economies. OPEC will be strong again, Arab nationalism will surge again, and the Muslim world will feel strong anew.

For these obvious reasons, the USA in particular, and the West in general, will do its utmost to protect the House of Saud and prevent Saudi Arabia from slipping away from its imperialist grip. Today, most educated Arabs consider the corrupt House of Saud to be not only the most powerful direct instrument of Western control over the Arab nation, but also the Arab world's "Achilles' Heel" in its constant struggle against Israel and the exploitative Western imperialist powers.

The enemies of the Arabs are three: Israel, the imperialist West (particularly the US and the UK), and the Arab traitors. For the Arabs to even begin to be able to fight Israel and its Western Godfathers, they must first and foremost get rid of the traitors among them, especially the feudal corrupt House of Saud. Saudi Arabia has never been riper for a popular revolution than at present. If the Arabs fail to get rid of such traitors, their existence as a nation might be in deep jeopardy in the near future.

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http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0967431603/002-3533713-7335208

Notes:

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2. Quoted in Robert Lacey, *The Kingdom: Arabia and the House of Saud* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1981), p. 145.

3. Quoted in Said K. Aburish, *The Rise, Corruption and the Coming Fall of the House of Saud* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995), p. 152.

4. Ibid., p. 18.

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6. Quoted in Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p. 21.

7. Quoted in Lacey, *The Kingdom*, p. 75.

8. Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p. 21.

9. Ibid., p. 22.

10. Ibid., p. 24.

11. Ibid., p. 33.

12. Lacey, *The Kingdom*, p. 104.

13. Quoted in Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 19.

14. Quoted in Holden, *The House of Saud*, p. 47.

15. Ibid., p. 50.

16. Lacey, *The Kingdom*, p. 124.

17. Quoted in Holden, *The House of Saud*, p. 64.

18. Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p. 101.

19. Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 33.

20. Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p.137.

21. Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 14.

22. Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p. 136.

23. Powell, *Saudi Arabia*, p. 62.

24. Quoted in Lacey, *The Kingdom*, p. 150.

25. Ibid., p. 157.

26. Quoted in Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, pp. 147-48.

27. Powell, *Saudi Arabia*, p. 56.

28. Quoted in Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p. 148.

29. Quoted in ibid., p. 157.

30. Quoted in Lacey, *The Kingdom*, p. 184.

31. Quoted in ibid., p. 182.

32. Quoted in Holden, *The House of Saud*, p. 80.

33. Quoted in Troeller, *The Birth of Saudi Arabia*, p. 181.

34. Aburish, The House of Saud, p. 21.

35. Powell, *Saudi Arabia*, p. 68.

36. My family name, Sindi, is not Arab. Although my mother traces her Arab bloodlines back to Abu-Bakr, the first Caliph after Prophet Mohammad from the Quraysh tribe of Makkah, my father's ancestors migrated from Pakistan's Sind province on the Arabian Sea to settle down in Makkah in the early 1700s.

37. Quoted in Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 22.

38. Ibid., p. 24.

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40. Ibid., p. 24.

41. Quoted in Lacey, *The Kingdom,* p. 265.

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44. Quoted in Howard Zinn, *A People's History of the United States* (New York: Harper Perennial, 1990), p. 404.

45. Quoted in Holden, *The House of Saud*, p. 144.

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47. For the details on Truman's decision, see Gar Alperovitz*, Atomic Diplomacy: Hiroshima and Potsdam. The Use of the Atomic Bomb and the American Confrontation with Soviet Power* (New York: Vintage Books, 1965), and William Blum, "Hiroshima: Needless Slaughter, Useful Terror," *Covert Action Quarterly* No. 53, Summer 1995: 22-25.

48. Aburish, The House of Saud, p. 154.

49. Quoted in Holden, *The House of Saud*, p. 314.

50. To cite a personal example. Upon returning to my homeland (Saudi Arabia) in 1978 with a Ph.D. in International Relations from USC, I wanted to teach at King Fahad University in Dhahran. However, the rector of the University, Dr. Bakr Abdullah Bakr, preferred to hire an American who also graduated from my alma mater (USC) in 1975 with a Ph.D. also in International Relations. It should be indicated here that this American, who was one of my acquaintances and schoolmates at USC, was unemployed in the US between 1975 and 1978 and could not find any teaching position in his own native country.

51. Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 40.

52. Ibid., p. 122.

53. Ibid., p. 13.

54. Quoted in Nicholas Fraser et al, *Aristotle Onassis* (New York: Ballantine Books, 1977), p. 181.

55. Holden, *The House of Saud*, p. 217.

56. Quoted in "Islam Against Nationalism," *The Economist* (London) Vol. 203, June 2, 1962, p. 903.

57. When I wrote my Ph.D. dissertation on "Pan-Islamism" at USC in 1978, from which I published: "King Faisal and Pan-Islamism" in Willard A. Beling (ed.) *King Faisal and The Modernisation of Saudi Arabia* (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1980), pp. 184-201, I could not freely express the views I am writing here for fear of retaliation by the Saudi government.

58. Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 163.

59. Fred Halliday, *Arabia Without Sultans* (New York: Penguin Books, 1979), p. 216.

60. Powell, *Saudi Arabia*, p. 97.

61. Ibid., p. 97.

62. Quoted in Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 50.

63. Ibid., p. 108.

64. Quoted in ibid., p. 168.

65. Ibid., p. 137.

66. Ibid., p. 304.

67. Bob Woodward, *Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA 1981-1987* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1987), p. 398.

68. The Internet, Committee Against Corruption in Saudi Arabia (C.A.C.S.A.), "Corruption page of Khaled bin Sultan", 1996, p. 2.

69. Ronald Kessler, *The Richest Man in the World: The Story of Adnan Khashoggi* (New York: Warner Books, 1986), pp. 255-56.

70. Woodward, *Veil*, p. 397.

71. See William Blum, *Killing Hope: U.S. Military and CIA Interventions Since World War II* (Monroe, Maine: Common Courage Press, 1995).

72. Aburish, *The House of Saud*, p. 68.

73. Ibid., p. 48.

74. Ibid., p. 294.